To the Right Honourable, The LORDS and COMMONS Assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of Richard Pight, *Clerk of the Irons in the Mint, in the Tower of* London.

Humbly sheweth,

THat your Petitioner was intrusted in the Publique service for King and Parliament, in the year 1642. and hath ever since with great industry and faithfulness discharged the Trust reposed in him, as will appear by the testimony of several persons of Quality and Integrity, and by his giving a just and true Accompt to the late Council of State, of all such Irons committed to his Charge.

That your Petitioner by the malice of one *Violet*, hath suffered unjustly much trouble and disgrace, being abetted by some that are and have been your Petitioners persecutors, and are offenders and confederates with the said *Violet*, who is to be tryed the next Term upon an Indictment for Misprision of Treason.

That your Petitioner was authorized in his said Office, Clerk to the Irons of the said Mint, 1649. as by his Pattent granted by the late Parliament, as also by Indenture of the Mint, confirmed by Act of Parliament will more fully appear.

And your Petitioner is bound to prosecute them, it being contrary to Law that any offendors should swear against the prosecutor, until after the tryal, for they care not what they swear to save themselves.

Yet so it is (may it please your Honours) that one M. *Swallow* (a great companion of, and instigated by the foresaid *Violet*) endeavours to displace your Petitioner of his said Office, pretending Right to the same, upon a Pattent granted formerly by King *James*, without giving your Petitioner leave by due course of Law to make his Right, Integrity, and faithfulness manifest in the same, the said Patent of M. *Swallow* being (as is humbly conceived) void in Law; he being for his unfaithfulness in the said Office and Service displaced, and your Petitioner vested in his room; which your Petitioner is ready and willing to prove, when and after what manner your Honours shall please to Order.

That your Petitioner was impowred by Order of the Council in 1649. for the searching, finding and prosecuting of false Coyners. Also that in the convention of 1656. before the Honourable the Lord *Widdrington*, Order was given to a Committee to prepare an Act for redress and punishing of false Coyners, a draught whereof is ready to be produced by your Petitioner.

That divers persons are so notoriously insolent and bold, as (under pretence of making Farthings) to stamp Silver money and forrain coyn, there being no Law established to prohibite their Presses.

That several Offenders and ill-affected persons make it their practise to get false money into their hands, and by boyling the same, put such a gloss thereon, that it passes for currant, to the great prejudice and dishonour of the Nation.

That your Petitioner hath not received one penny for hisbursements, in prosecution of above eighty Offenders within these four years last past, as by a Schedule annexed appears; or salary since 1651. there being due to your Petitioner 500 l. and upwards, as by his Accompts will appear, and in Salary for his Office in the Mint 100 l. by which your Petitioners Estate in publique employments is much exhausted.

From such suits as which shall be commenced against him by any prosecution of offenders in the annexed Schedule or their confederates, who have been prosecuted by your Petitioner in behalf of the Common-wealth which dayly seeketh his ruine, and is in danger of his life.

The Premises considered, your Petitioner humbly supplicates your Honours, to confirm your Petitioner in his said Office of the Mint, and re-imburse your Petitioner of such disbursements and Salary as shall justly appear due unto him; And that your Honours will impower your Petitioner for prosecution of false Coyners, &c. and grant such Protection and Indempnity to your Petitioner therein, as to your Honours shall appear most equitable.

And your Petitioner (as in duty bound) shall ever pray, &c.

Richard Pight.

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